

White-fruited forms of *G. resinosa* are mentioned in our manuals of botany, and the red may also have been detected before. They are analogous to cases more often occurring in the common blueberries. I have several times come upon *Vaccinium vacillans*, with white or pinkish fruit, in the dune region of northern Indiana. Sometimes the bushes will almost or quite exclusively occupy an area of one or two square rods, producing berries of these abnormal colors which can be gathered by the quart.

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REVIEWS

Curtis's Nature and Development of Plants*

In this work the author has "had in mind a purpose to make familiar our common plants," this knowledge being considered fundamental in any botanical work. The volume is not offered as a text, but as a reader to accompany lectures and laboratory work. Pedagogically the object is to "quicken the reasoning faculty, and create a desire for a further examination of the subject."

The Introduction discusses, (1) The Nature of the Plant (as made up of cells); (2) The Nature of the Living Substance of the Plant. The four sections of Part I, Nature of Plants, treat, in order, of the leaf, the root, the stem, and the flower, fruit, and seedling. Part II, The Development of Plants, comprises six sections, dealing with, Classification of Plants, Thallophyta, Bryophyta, Pteridophyta, Spermatophyta, Angiospermae (Spermatophyta concluded). Two hundred and forty-four pages are devoted to Part II, and ninety-four to Part I.

In conformity with the aim, familiarity with common plants, physiology is given less prominence than structure and classification. There are no illustrations of physiological experiments. On reading through the chapters, one's attention is arrested by the use of pistil and carpel as synonymous (p. 102); of antheridial cell for the more usual term generative cell (p. 108); and

*Curtis, Carlton C. Nature and Development of Plants. Pp. vii + 471. *f.* 1-342. Henry Holt & Co., New York. 1907.

of epicotyl and plumule as synonyms (p. 112), though on page 122 the plumule is described as composed of leaves.

The volume is one of the best-illustrated books that has appeared for some time, and the omission of half-tones from the illustrations has obvious advantages. Some of the figures will undoubtedly become classical, and supplant the well-worn ones "made in Germany."

We believe that the author's plan of introducing the student to botany by a study of spermatophytes, with which he is more or less familiar, has much to commend it, both theoretically and practically, over the plan of beginning with unicellular plants. The book will undoubtedly materially assist the pupil in getting the most out of his lectures and laboratory exercises.

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PROCEEDINGS OF THE CLUB

DECEMBER 10, 1907

The regular meeting of the Club was held at the American Museum of Natural History at 8:30 P. M., with President Rusby in the chair; fourteen persons were present. In the absence of the secretary, Mr. Charles L. Pollard was appointed acting secretary.

The chairman stated, on behalf of the committee appointed to arrange a memorial meeting in honor of Professor Underwood, that the committee had the matter in hand and would be prepared to report at an early date.

A letter was read from Mr. C. F. Cox, elected at the last meeting of the Club to serve as its representative on the Council of the New York Academy of Sciences, in which he stated that owing to the fact of his nomination to the presidency of the Academy it would be advisable for the club to elect another representative in his place. Dr. Marshall A. Howe and Mr. Charles L. Pollard were nominated. The chairman stated that Dr. Howe was absent from the country, and that it was consequently uncertain whether he would be prepared to serve. The nomination of Dr. Howe was then withdrawn and Mr. Pollard was unanimously elected as the representative of the Club on the Council of the Academy.